

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached drawing sheet includes changes to Fig. 7. This sheet replaces the original sheet that contained Figs. 7.

Attachment: 1 Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-27 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 1, 14, 26 and 27 have been amended as shown on pages 2-7 of the Reply. Claims 4 and 12 have been cancelled herein. The below comments present in greater detail distinctive features of applicants' claimed invention over the cited art that were conveyed to the Examiner over the telephone on August 30, 2007.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I. Objection to Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "716" has been used to designate different boxes. This objection should be withdrawn in view of the replacement-drawing sheet submitted herewith in accordance with the Examiner's recommendation.

II. Rejection of Claim 26 Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 26 has been amended herein. In view of the amendments made to claim 26, this rejection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

III. Rejection of Claims 1-5, 9, 10 and 12-27 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-5, 9, 10 and 12-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Stallings, William. (*Cryptography and Network Security*; Third Edition. Chapter 9/Public-Key Cryptography: 9.1: Principles of Public-Key Cryptosystems. Upper Saddle River, NJ. Prentice Hall, 2003. Pgs. 259-265, 290-293, 444 and 655). Withdrawal of this rejection is requested for the following reasons. The cited reference fails to disclose or suggest all aspects set forth in the subject claims.

A single prior art reference anticipates a patent claim only if it *expressly or inherently describes each and every limitation set forth in the patent claim*. *Trintec Industries, Inc. v. Top-U.S.A. Corp.*, 295 F.3d 1292, 63 USPQ2d 1597 (Fed. Cir. 2002); See

Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The *identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim*. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989) (emphasis added).

The claimed invention provides methods and systems facilitating the exchange and use of a session key to facilitate secure communication. To this end amended independent claim 1 recites *a message encryption system comprising: a session key employed to securely exchange a message associated with a dialog; and, an encryption component that employs asymmetric encryption to first securely transmit the session key, the session key thereafter being employed to encrypt the message and securely exchange the message, wherein the session key encrypted message is further encrypted using a private key securely associated with an initiator of the message*. Independent claims 14, 18, 22, 26 and 27 recite similar features. Stallings is silent regarding such novel aspects.

Stallings relates to principles of public-key cryptosystems and secret key distribution with confidentiality and authentication. At page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner contends that Stallings discloses the claimed aspects. Applicants' representative avers to the contrary. In accordance with the claimed invention, the initiating user generates a session key, encrypts it with a private key associated securely with the initiator and a public key associated with a recipient and then sends the encrypted session key to the recipient. The recipient decrypts the session key in the reverse order, first using his private key, then the public key of the initiator. Further messages sent from the initiator are encrypted twice, first with the session key then encrypted message again encrypted with the private key of the initiator. The recipient decrypts these messages first with the public key of the initiator, then the session key. At the cited portions, Stallings discloses a secret key distribution that provides protection against both active and passive attacks. A secret key is encrypted using the private key-public key pair and passed from an initiator to a recipient. The encrypted message containing the secret key is decrypted the message to recover the secret key. Further, Stallings discloses that each session key is associated with a single message and is used for encrypting and decrypting the message. However, Stallings does not teach that subsequent messages are encrypted twice, first using the session key and again using the private key of the initiator. Thus, Stallings is silent regarding *the*

session key thereafter being employed to encrypt the message and securely exchange the message, wherein the session key encrypted message is further encrypted using a private key securely associated with an initiator of the message as recited by the subject claims.

Accordingly, it is requested that this rejection with respect to independent claims 1, 14, 18, 22, 26 and 27 should be withdrawn.

IV. Rejection of Claim 11 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stallings. It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn for at least the following reasons.

Claim 11 depends from independent claim 1. As discussed supra, Stallings does not teach or suggest all aspects of amended independent claim 1. Accordingly, it is requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

V. Rejection of Claims 6-8 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 6-8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stallings in view of VanHeyningen *et al.* (US 2002/0112152). It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Stallings and VanHeyningen *et al.* do not teach or suggest all aspects set forth in the subject claims. Claims 6-8 depend from independent claim 1, and as discussed supra, Stallings does not teach or suggest all aspects recited by amended independent claim 1. VanHeyningen *et al.* discloses methods and apparatus for providing secure streaming data transmission facilities using unreliable protocols and does not compensate for the aforementioned deficiencies of Stallings. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection should be withdrawn

CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP566US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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